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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kazuo TANAKA

Group Art Unit: 2811

Application No.: 09/586,963

Examiner: Cuong Q. Nguyen

Filed: June 5, 2000

Docket No.: JAO 39894.01

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND A METHOD FOR MAKING THE SAME THAT
PROVIDE ARRANGEMENT OF A CONNECTING REGION FOR AN EXTERNAL
CONNECTING TERMINAL (As Amended)

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Election of Species Requirement mailed March 19, 2001, Applicant provisionally elects Embodiment 1, Figures 1-5. At least claims 2, 3, 6 and 12 read on the elected species. At least claim 2 is generic to all species. This election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid

unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:EDM/gam

Date: April 17, 2001

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